

## Public Notice – Environmental Study

**PURPOSE OF NOTICE:** To announce a public meeting and seek public comment on a water quality improvement study by the Department of Environmental Quality for the Great Creek watershed in Mecklenburg County, Virginia.

**PUBLIC MEETING:** Bracey Community Center, located at the intersection of Bracey Lane and Nelly Jones Road in Bracey, Virginia, on Thursday, March 8, 2007 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. A rain date has been scheduled for Tuesday, March 13, 2007, at the same time and location.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** March 9, 2007 to April 9, 2007. Should inclement weather result in the meeting being held on the rain date (March 13), the public comment period will extend from March 14, 2007 to April 12, 2007.

**MEETING DESCRIPTION:** This is a public meeting to discuss a study to restore water quality in the Great Creek watershed.

**DESCRIPTION OF STUDY:** Virginia agencies are working to identify sources of bacteria contamination in stream segments in the Great Creek watershed in Central Virginia. This contamination exceeds water quality standards, thus prohibiting swimming and other forms of primary contact recreation. The contamination impairs or decreases the quality of the water.

The following is a description of the “impaired” segment of Great Creek, the length of the impaired segment, the type of impairment, and the segment location:

Great Creek (6.91 miles), *E.coli*/total fecal coliform, Mecklenburg County [beginning upstream at the headwaters, and extending downstream to the Roanoke River (Lake Gaston)].

During the study, DEQ will develop a total maximum daily load, or a TMDL, for the impaired waters. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards. To restore water quality, contamination levels have to be reduced to the TMDL amount.

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